

UNCLASSIFIED

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Page: 1

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PAGE 01 BUENOS 07059 211605Z  
ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 INRE-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00  
CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00  
PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 DHA-05 COME-00 EB-08  
LAB-04 SIL-01 TRSE-00 /068 W

-----058666 211630Z /47

O 211545Z SEP 77  
FM AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2356

[REDACTED] BUENOS AIRES 7059

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: SHUM, PINS, ELAB, AIFLD, AR  
SUBJECT: TEACHER UNION LEADER BRAVO UNDER OFFICIAL DETENTION

REF: BUENOS AIRES 6791

BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED

1. INTERIOR MINISTRY ANNOUNCED SEPTEMBER 20 THAT PROFESSOR ALFREDO BRAVO, SECRETARY GENERAL OF THE ARGENTINE TEACHER'S UNION (CTERA) AND CO-PRESIDENT OF THE PERMANENT ASSEMBLY FOR HUMAN RIGHTS, IS NOW UNDER OFFICIAL ARREST IN LA PLATA. BRAVO WAS SEQUESTERED SEPTEMBER 8 FROM HIS SCHOOL HOUSE BY INDIVIDUALS PURPORTING TO BE FEDERAL POLICE OFFICERS, BUT GOVERNMENT SPOKESMEN SUBSEQUENTLY DENIED THAT BRAVO WAS UNDER ARREST.

2. THE INTERIOR MINISTRY GAVE NO IMMEDIATE REASON FOR BRAVO'S ARREST, MERELY STATING THAT HE WAS BEING HELD AT THE DISPOSAL OF PEN. (PODER EJECUTIVO NACIONAL)  
END UNCLASSIFIED.

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PAGE 02 BUENOS 07059 211605Z

BEGIN [REDACTED]

Current Class: [REDACTED]

Page: 1

UNCLASSIFIED

ARGENTINA PROJECT (S200000044)  
U.S. DEPT. OF STATE, A/RPS/IPS  
Margaret P. Grafeld, Director  
Exemption(s):  
(X) Release ( ) Excise ( ) Deny  
Declassify: ( ) In Part (X) In Full  
( ) Classify as ( ) Extend as ( ) Downgrade to  
Date Declassify on Reason  
DECLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

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Document Number: 1977BUENOS07059

Page: 2

Channel: n/a

Case Number: 200000044

3. IN A CONVERSATION YESTERDAY WITH EMBOFF, A PRESIDENTIAL AIDE PLACED THE BRAVO AFFAIR IN THE GENERAL CONTEXT OF ONE OF A SERIES OF INCIDENTS STAGED BY SECURITY ELEMENTS (WHICH OFTEN-TIMES TURN OUT TO BE NAVY MEN ACTING ON ADMIRAL MASSERA'S ORDERS HE ALLEGED) WITH THE INTENTION OF EMBARRASSING PRESIDENT VIDELA AND UNDERMINING HIS LEADERSHIP. (BRAVO'S SEIZURE TOOK PLACE WHILE VIDELA WAS IN WASHINGTON.) OUR SOURCE INTERPRETED THE REGULARIZATION OF BRAVO'S ARREST AND THE PLACING OF HIS NAME UNDER THE PEN AS A GREAT VICTORY FOR VIDELA -- IN EFFECT SNATCHING BRAVO FROM THE RANKS OF THE "DISAPPEARED." OUR SOURCE STATED THAT THOSE WHO ORIGINALLY SEIZED BRAVO SUSPECTED HIM OF LEFTIST CONNECTIONS. THIS HAS BEEN TOTALLY DISPROVED, AND IT IS LIKELY THAT HE WILL BE SET FREE SHORTLY. HE SAID.  
END LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

4. PLEASE INFORM AIFLD EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR DOHERTY WHO EXPRESSED CONCERN TO EMBOFF THAT BRAVO'S SEIZURE MAY HAVE BEEN RELATED TO MEETING WHICH BRAVO AND OTHER PERMANENT ASSEMBLY OFFICERS HELD WITH AFL-CIO SOLIDARITY TEAM THE DAY BEFORE.  
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Current Class: [REDACTED]

Page: 2

UNCLASSIFIED